



2018 LENTEN VESPERS SERIES

Mid-Week #4

HYMNS

CW 127 — *Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*

CW 377:1,9-10 — *Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice*

CW 421 — *All Depends on Our Possessing*

PSALM OF THE DAY ❖ Psalm 143

PSALM PRAYER

Lord Jesus, you bring light to those who dwell in darkness and make your love known to them. Enter not into judgment with your servants, but strengthen us in the saving faith and guide us into the land of perfect peace where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever.

PASSION HISTORY ❖ Luke 23:26-56

LESSON ❖ Romans 8:31-39

³¹ What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

³³ Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies! ³⁴ Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵ What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ Just as it is written:

*For your sake we are being put
to death all day long.
We are considered as sheep
to be slaughtered.*

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces,

³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SERMON TEXT ❖ John 16:1-33

¹ "I have told you these things so that you will not fall away. ² They will put you out of the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who murders you will think he is offering a service to God. ³ They will do these things because they have not known the Father or me. ⁴ But I have told you these things so that when their time comes, you may remember that I told them to you. I did not tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.

⁵ "But now I am going away to him who sent me, and not one of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ Yet because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart.

⁷ Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth: It is good for you that I go away. For if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; ¹¹ about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² "I still have many things to tell you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. For he will not speak on his own, but

whatever he hears he will speak. He will also declare to you what is to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I said that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you.

¹⁶ "In a little while you are not going to see me anymore, and again in a little while you will see me, because I am going away to the Father."

¹⁷ Therefore some of his disciples asked one another, "What does he mean when he tells us, 'In a little while you are not going to see me, and again in a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going away to the Father'?" ¹⁸ So they kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he's saying."

¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you trying to determine with one another what I meant by saying, 'In a little while you are not going to see me, and again in a little while you will see me'?"

²⁰ Amen, Amen, I tell you: You will weep and wail, but the world will rejoice. You will become sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy. ²¹ A woman giving birth has pain, because her time has come. But when she has delivered the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, because of her joy that a person has been born into the world.

²² "So you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. ²³ In that day you will not ask me anything. Amen, Amen, I tell

you: Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. ²⁴ Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask, and you will receive, so that your joy may be made complete.

²⁵ "I have told you these things using figurative language. A time is coming when I will no longer speak to you using figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I am not telling you that I will make requests of the Father on your behalf. ²⁷ For the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world. Now I am going to leave the world and go to the Father."

²⁹ "Yes!" his disciples said. "Now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative language. ³⁰ Now we know that you know everything and do not need to have anyone ask you anything. For this reason we believe that you came from God."

³¹ Jesus answered them, "Now do you believe?"

³² Listen, a time is coming, in fact it is here, when you will be scattered, everyone to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not going to be alone, because the Father is with me. ³³ I have told you these things, so that you may have peace in me. In this world you are going to have trouble. But be courageous! I have overcome the world."

In Trouble He Will Comfort You

Psalm 143

Refrain

Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm Tone

Refrain

O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for | mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness come to | my relief.

Do not bring your servant into | judgment,
for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.

My spirit grows faint with- | in me;
my heart within me | is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quick- | ly, O LORD;
do not hide your | face from me.

Let the morning bring me word of your un- | failing love,
for I have put my | trust in you.

Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God;
may your good Spirit lead me on | level ground.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son
and to the Holy | Spirit,
as it was in the be- | ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Refrain